

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 NSC-05 MC-02 EB-08 /074 W
-----181959Z 116294 /43

R 181644Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2281
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6934
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1551

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DA
SUBJECT: NEW DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT

REF: (A) USNATO 1533 (DTG 171850Z MAR 77, NOTAL,
(B) STATE 057030 (DTG 150044Z MAR 77)
(C) USNATO 1213 (DTG 050949Z MAR 77)

SUMMARY: ON MARCH 18 THE DPC AGREE TO THE DRAFT LETTERS FROM THE DPC TO THE DANISH GOVERNMENT (TEXTS IN PO/77/42-REF A), ACCEPTING THE CLASSIFIED LETTER AS WRITTEN AND AMENDING SLIGHTLY THE LAST TWO SENTENCES OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE UNCLASSIFIED, ABBREVIATED VERSION. THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, THE AMBASSADOR, AND OTHER PERMREPS WELCOMED THE AGREEMENT'S PROVISION FOR INCREASED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES IN REAL TERMS, ACHIEVED IN THE FACE OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. THE AMBASSADOR, PAULS (FRG), AND GENERAL COLLADAY (DCMC) EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT DANISH AUTHORITIES WOULD SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE CONFIDENTIAL

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DENMARK'S DEFENSE EFFORT; LUNS CAUTIONED THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE DANISH GOVERNMENT TO GET PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL FOR FURTHER INCREASES. END SUMMARY.

1. INTRODUCING THE AGENDA ITEM, SYG LUNS CALLED THE DPC'S ATTENTION TO PO/77/42, WHICH CONTAINS TWO DRAFT LETTERS (TEXT REF A) FROM THE DPC TO THE DANISH GOVERNMENT -- ONE CLASSIFIED LETTER FOR USE WITHIN THE DANISH GOVERNMENT AND ONE UNCLASSIFIED FOR USE BY THE DANISH GOVERNMENT IN THE FORTHCOMING PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSIONS OF THE NEW

DEFENSE AGREEMENT.

2. GENERAL COLLADAY (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE) MADE THE FIRST STATEMENT, DRAWN VERY CLOSELY FROM THE MC ASSESSMENT OF THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT (MC.-7-77, DATED 15 MARCH). GENERAL COLLADAY NOTED THAT MC HAD PREPARED THIS ASSESSMENT BASED ON A PROVISIONAL SHAPE ASSESSMENT AND BEFORE SACLANT'S ASSESSMENT BECAME AVAILABLE. THE MC HAD SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED SACLANT'S ASSESSMENT AND SACEUR'S FINAL ASSESSMENT (TEXT OF BOTH ASSESSMENTS CIRCULATED AS IMSM-133-77, 17 MARCH). SACEUR HAD CONFIRMED SHAPE'S PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT; SACLANT HAD WELCOMED THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF THE IMPORTANT SURVEILLANCE EFFORT PROVIDED BY DANISH FORCES IN THE GREENLAND AND FAROES AREAS. SYG LUNS ADDED THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT DANISH AUTHORITIES WERE CONSIDERING INCREASING, IN THE FUTURE, ITS ORDER FOR GUIDED MISSILE FRIGATES FROM THREE TO SIX.

3. THE AMBASSADOR MADE A STATEMENT DRAWN FROM REF B. PAULS (FRG) STATED HIS AUTHORITIES WERE SATISFIED WITH THE CONTENTS OF THE AGREEMENT, BUT WOULD BE VERY GLAD FOR INCREASED EFFORT AS THE DANISH ECONOMIC SITUATION PERMITS. LUNS REMARKED THAT DENMARK'S ECONOMIC SITUATION WOULD HAVE TO IMPROVE A GREAT DEAL BEFORE THE DANISH GOVERNMENT COULD HAVE ANY HOPE OF GETTING PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL FOR IN-

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CREASES IN DEFENSE SPENDING OVER LEVELS IN THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 NSC-05 MC-02 EB-08 /074 W
-----181958Z 118997 /41

R 181644Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2282
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6935
CINCLANT
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 1551

4. SCHUURMANS (BELGIUM) AND CATALANO (ITALY) BOTH WELCOMED THE NEW AGREEMENT, WITH SCHUURMANS ADDING THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WERE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED OVER THE PROSPECT THAT BELGIAN PUBLIC OPINION MIGHT TRY TO COMPARE BELGIUM'S DEFENSE EFFORT WITH THAT OF DENMARK, WHICH, LIKE BELGIUM, WAS A SMALL COUNTRY IN REAL ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY.

5. PETERS (UK DEFAD) WELCOMED THE NEW AGREEMENT AND CONGRATULATED DANISH AUTHORITIES FOR BRINGING IT OFF. HE THOUGHT THAT THE BALANCE OF THE DRAFT LETTERS WAS JUST ABOUT RIGHT, MIXING COMMENDATION WITH CONCERN SO AS TO PROTECT DANISH AUTHORITIES FROM CHARGES EITHER THAT IT IS DOING TOO LITTLE OR THAT IT IS DOING TOO MUCH. HOWEVER, THE QUESTIONED THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE UNCLASSIFIED LETTER, WONDERING IF IT WAS ADVISABLE TO PARADE DEFICIENCIES IN NATO'S DEFENSE IN SUCH STARK TERMS. TO GET AROUND THIS DIFFICULTY AND TONE DOWN THE LANGUAGE, LUNS PROPOSED AMENDING THE LAST TWO SENTENCES OF PARAGRAPH 3 TO READ, QUOTE: THE INCREASES BY THE AGREEMENT
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ARE NOT, HOWEVER, FULLY SUFFICIENT FOR THE FORCE IMPROVEMENTS COVERED BY NATO GOALS. THEY WILL STILL LEAVE SOME DEFICIENCIES IN DENMARK'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMON DEFENSE. END QUOTE. NONE INTERPOSED ANY OBJECTION TO THE DRAFT CLASSIFIED LETTER OR TO THE UNCLASSIFIED LETTER AS AMENDED BY LUNS.

6. SVART (DENMARK) CONVEYED DEFENSE MINISTER MOLLER'S SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO EVERYONE INSTRUMENTAL IN SPEEDING UP THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION; WITH CONSULTATIONS COMPLETED, HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO EFFECT A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO THE NEXT BUDGET APRIL 1. HE ASKED ONLY THAT NATO NOT RELEASE THE UNCLASSIFIED LETTER UNTIL AFTER MOLLER HAD PUT ITS TEXT BEFORE PARLIAMENT. LUNS AGREED TO SVART'S REQUEST. STRAUSS-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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